

The fourth research project involved a partnership with a day shelter for people experiencing homelessness. In Spring 2012, the class conducted a community-based needs assessment of gaps in shelter and housing, the solutions and strategies used by people to find shelter and housing given these gaps, and the strengths and resilience embedded in their solutions.

Notes from participant observations, course evaluations, students' written reflections on their learning, and a post-course on-line survey (based on the survey developed by Lichenstein et al., 2011) constitute the data. The constant comparative method of analysis (Glaser & Strauss, 1973) was used to generate themes grounded in the data and to form conclusions about what students learned and how they learned it. Emerging themes from the data revolve around the perceived lack of "neutrality" of the research given the team's collaboration with organizations and an enhanced sense of agency and confidence around the content of the issues under study and the research process.

References

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